

Message Text

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17
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAM-01 NEA-10 /091 W
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P R 120945Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9382
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
DIA
USMISSION NATO
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY
AMCONGEN MILAN
AMCONGEN NAPLES
US DOCOSOUTH
SHAPEUSNR

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DEPARTMENT MAY WISH PASS SELECTED MIDEAST POSTS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJECT: CHAMBER VOTE FORMALLY ENDS GOVERNMENT CRISIS

1. ITALY'S LONG GOVERNMENT CRISIS, WHICH BEGAN AT THE
CLOSE OF 1975, FORMALLY ENDED ON THE EVENING OF AUGUST
11 WHEN THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES PROVIDED THE ANDREOTTI
MINORITY GOVERNMENT IS EXPECTED VOTE OF CONFIDENCE.
SUSTAINED BY VOTES OF ABSTENTION (303) FROM THE PCI, PSI,
PRI, PSDI, PLT AND THE LEFT INDEPENDENTS), THE DC
"MONOCOLORE" MUSTERED 258 VOTE (DC AND ALTO-ADIGE). 44
VOTED AGAINST (MSI/DN, DEM PRO, RAD, AND THE LEFT
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INDEPENDENT, SPINELLI). THE GOVERNMENT THEREFORE

OBTAINED A MAJORITY OF 152 (THE NUMBER VOTING WAS LOWERED TO 605 DUE TO THE ABSENCES OF 25 DEPUTIES OF WHOM 7 WERE DC).

2. THE CHAMBER DEBATE HAD ENDED EARLIER IN THE DAY WITH ANDREOTTI AGAIN EMPHASIZING THE "SERVICE" NATURE OF HIS MINORITY GOVERNMENT. HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE ONLY AS LONG AS REQUESTED, HOWEVER, "NOT A DAY MORE."
COMMENT: IN SO DOING, ANDREOTTI ON THE ONE HAND ACKNOWLEDGED THE TENOUS CONDITIONS WHICH GAVE RISE TO HIS MINORITY GOVERNMENT. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE SERVED NOTICE THAT THE DC WOULD NOT COMPROMISE ITS BASIC POSITIONS (CLEAR DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE ROLES OF THE DC AND PCI) SOLELY IN ORDER TO KEEP THE "MONOCOLORE" ALIVE. END COMMENT.

3. ANDREOTTI ALSO INDICATED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD WORK DURING THE NEXT FIFTY DAYS (WHEN PARLIAMENT RECONVENES ON SEPTEMBER 27) TO COMPOSE A MORE DETAILED AND PRECISE PROGRAM. AT THAT TIME, MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE OSSOLA WILL ALSO REPORT ON THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS. ANDREOTTI SINGLED OUT THE PROBLEMS OF YOUTH AND WOMEN FOR PRIORITY ATTENTION, AS WELL AS COMPLETION OF THE REVISION OF THE VATICAN CONCORDAT (BEGUN IN 1971).

4. ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ANDREOTTI AGAIN REITERATED HIS SATISFACTION THAT A BROAD CONSENSUS EXISTS ON THE VALIDITY OF "ITALY'S ALLIANCES" AND THE NEED TO ACHIEVE EUROPEAN POLITICAL UNITY. RESPONDING TO CALLS BY BOTH BERLINGUER (PCI) AND CRAXI (PSI) DURING THE CHAMBER DEBATE THAT ITALY TAKE SOME INITIATIVE TOWARD RESTORING PEACE IN LEBANON, ANDREOTTI ANNOUNCED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER FORLANI HAD CONVENED ITALY'S MIDEAST AMBASSADORS AUGUST 10 FOR A REVIEW OF THE SITUATION. "THE POSSIBILITIES OF COORDINATED ACTIONS IN SUPPORT OF ALL INITIATIVES DIRECTED AT ACHIEVING TRUCE CONDITIONS AND BRINGING HELP TO THE CONCERNED POPULATIONS" WILL BE STUDIED. VOLPE

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